GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1624
ANSWERED ON:04.05.2016
Low Cost Calling Applications
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Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of low cost calling applications working as on date;

(b) whether the low cost calling applications are ignoring the laid down norms by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI);

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps being taken by the TRAI against those applications?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a) to (d) Large number of Over-The-Top (OTT) players offer low cost calling services to their customers. Generally such services are being offered through customized applications. These are accessible over the internet and ride on telecom operator's networks offering internet access services.

Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has released a consultation paper on "Regulatory Framework for Over-The-Top services on 27th March,2015 for inviting comments from stakeholders. The consultation paper covers many issues including net neutrality and possible regulatory and licensing framework for OTT Players.

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